

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Listen, the bells in the steeples
In jubilant gladness ring.
To welcome the coming of Christmas
And the birthday of the King...

LILY'S CHRISTMAS.

BY HELEN FORREST GRAVES.

SOFTER than a covert
of elder down,
the first snow of the season
had drifted down over the rocky
pastures and brown
wooden fences of Callikoon Farm...

Above the cluster of blossoming fish
geraniums in the window, one could just
see a rosy, dimpled face, looking out
toward the sunset.

Old Mrs. Carson, driving by on her
way from the mill, caught a glimpse of
it, and called to Old Trumper to
'Whoa!'

'Poor thing!' said Mrs. Carson, 'I
suppose she's dreadfully lonesome. I
guess I'll just stop and change the time
of day with her.'

Mrs. Harry Haddon herself answered
the knock, and though she put her
bravest face on it, Widow Carson could
see that she had been crying.

'Folks gone, eh?' said Mrs. Carson.
'Yes,' said the young wife.
'S'pose you'd ha' like to ha' gone,
too?' said Mrs. Carson.

'Harry said we couldn't afford it,'
answered Mrs. Harry, in a low voice.
'He was obliged to go to take care of
the old folks; but I should have been
only a useless expense. Of course,' she
added, with a sudden upspringing of the
bitterness of her inmost soul, 'I
know I am only a useless expense all the
time. They told me so when they went
away.'

'Told you so!'

Mrs. Carson looked over the top of
her spectacles in amazement.
'Oh, not in so many words!' said
Mrs. Harry, winking her eyes very hard
to get rid of a certain moisture on the
lashes. 'They are too considerate and
polite for that. But their actions speak
louder than words. I never am trusted to
do anything. No—Lily is too in-
experienced. Lily don't understand
these things. Lily mustn't strain her
back, nor spoil her hands.' Nothing is
intrusted to my charge, and here I am
left all alone until Harry gets back from
the Georgia Hot Springs, with nothing
to do but to reflect on my own incapaci-
ties.'

And Mrs. Harry got up and paced to
and fro, like a very pretty duodecimo
edition of a raging lion.

Mrs. Carson went her way. Mrs.
Harry sat with her chin in her hands,
her blue eyes gazing wistfully out over
the snow-covered landscape. She was
very, very unhappy—yet her marriage
with Harry Haddon had been a genuine
love-match. Her reverie was interrupted
by the appearance of the postmaster's
little son with a letter.

'From Harry,' she cried, joyously.
A long, loving letter it was, yet a un-
satisfactory one.

'You will have to spend your first married
Christmas without me, my Lily,' wrote the
young husband. 'My father is so much
worse that it seems quite impracticable to
leave him, and my mother declares she will
not stay alone in this 'foreign country,' as
she calls it, without me. The doctor thinks
that a couple of months in Georgia will be
of inestimable benefit to both of them. But
my heart aches when I think of you alone
there. You had better go to your sister,
Mrs. Conynham, until I return. Life at
Callikoon will be by far too rough for you.'

Mrs. Harry had hardly perused these
words when there came a loud knocking
at the door. It was Juliana Joyce,
wrapped in furs like an Esquimaux.

'Is it you?' cried Mrs. Harry, swal-
lowing down her grief until a more
convenient season. 'Come in. Your
trunks—'

'I hain't got none,' interrupted Miss
Joyce. 'I've come to say I ain't comin'!'

'What!' exclaimed Mrs. Harry.
'Can't,' said Miss Juliana. 'My sis-
ter's lost her wits, up to Smoky Town.

remote locality, and who had just come
from Callikoon Center.

'Hay, Dick Peppercorn!' said she.
'How do the shirt hands like the fac-
tory shuttin' down till Harry Haddon
gets back?'

'I ain't in no position to judge,' an-
swered the tinman, 'seem' as it ain't
shut-down.'

'Not shet down!' almost screamed
Juliana. 'Why, who's a-runnin' it? It
can't be Benhadad Jenkins, 'cause—'

'It's Mrs. Harry Haddon,' said Pep-
percorn.

'Git out. You're a-foolin' me!'

'I'm a-speakin' gospel truth and noth-
in' else,' protested Mr. Peppercorn.
'She keeps the books, and she gives out
the materials, and sees to packin' the or-
der boxes, and she checks off the time,
and she sets jests there at the desk all
day long, like a cat a-watchin' a mouse-
hole. An' ole Bill Boone, the cutter, he
allows she's a better manager and a
quicker hand at figures than Harry him-
self. And that's sayin' pretty consid-
er-able.'

'Well, I—do—declare—for!' slowly
uttered Juliana Joyce. 'I didn't think
it was in her! But she she can't keep
it up long. She ain't used that sort of
thing.'

'Don't know about that,' granted the
tinman, as he packed a bunch of dipper-
s when the wheel-tires should not spatter
them with mud. 'She's got an amaz-

Reuby Martin come for the pumpkins you
promised him.'

Slowly she withdrew the frosty bolts,
that clicked beneath her touch, and
turned the key in the big, foot-square
lock.

There, outlined against the black-blue
heavens rode a beautiful young moon,
instinct with orange light. All around
it lay the white winter world, and on the
step—the realization of all her hopes and
dreams—stood a tall, muffled figure, with
shining eyes.

'A merry Christmas to you, Lily! My
Lily!'

Did she faint? No, surely not; and
yet the first she knew she was lying on
the sofa in front of the fire, with Harry's
dear, tender face bending over her.

'I dreamed all this last night,' she
murmured—'all—all! And now it has
come true!'

Harry Haddon had taken advantage
of a sudden and unlooked-for improve-
ment in his father's condition, and had
traveled night and day to spend Christ-
mas with Lily.

'And I have made up my mind to
bring you back to the Hot Springs with
me, darling,' he said.

'But I cannot go!' said Lily, with
sparkling eyes. 'I've a great deal too
much to do.'

'Where is Juliana Joyce?'

'She is not here; she has never been
here.'

Then Lily told her tale.

'And you have managed the factory,
Lily—alone!' he cried, almost incredul-
ously.

'Yes, alone; and the foreman says,
Harry, that we have never had a more
successful season.'

'It does not seem possible, Lily.'

'But it is possible,' she said, smiling.
'I am not such a brainless toy as your
parents think, Harry—not so useless an
appendage as—'

She stopped short. She was too mag-
nanimous to reproach him in this, her
hour of triumph, even by the merest
implication.

'You see,' she added, 'I simply fell
back on practical good sense. Even
Juliana Joyce could have done no more
than that.'

'There is not one woman in a thou-
sand who would have had the courage to
do this thing!' exclaimed Harry.
'Lily, you are the greatest treasure man
ever won! I'd give a hundred dollars
to see my father's face when he reads
the letter I shall write to-night—to hear
my mother's comments!'

'Have I pleased you, Harry?'

'More than words can express, dear
little wife!'

'Then,' said Lily, 'that is enough
for me.'

Miss Juliana Joyce was compelled to
forego the sweetness of her expected re-
venge.

The old people down at the Georgia
Hot Springs could scarcely believe the
evidence of their own senses.

But Lily was happiest of all.

'God is kinder to us than we deserve,'
she said to Harry, as, side by side they
walked home from church that Christ-
mas morning. 'To think that I am so
blessedly content this day, whose soli-
tude and loneliness I feared with such
exceeding dread! If I were to live a
thousand years, I am quite sure that I
never could have such another happy
Christmas Day!'

And Harry quite agreed with her.

Christmas Turkeys.

Christmas turkeys have their necks
twirled in this.

'If I must die,' pleaded the turkey,
'let me be buried decently. Please
don't eat with your knife!'

Few things look so cheerless and
comfortless and unhappy as a turkey in
holiday attire.

Among other holiday advice, a con-
temporary tells 'how to stuff a turkey.'
The average citizen, however, is a good
deal more concerned about how to stuff
the family.

A butcher man his patron met
And said: 'How did your turkey set?'

The patron said, in accents glad:
'It settled best of all I've had.'

The butcher said: 'I think 'twas fit
If you would settle now for it.'

Santa Claus Going the Rounds.



SANTA CLAUS' TREE.



Sing a song of Santa Claus
A-riding up the street,
With tiny sleigh, and silver bells
And reindeer's snarl and flout;
An', when his pack is open,
The children all will sing,
Hurrah! hurrah! for Santa Claus!
Our jolly Wint' King.

Sing a song of Santa Claus!
The jolly little fellow!
He has a twinkle in his eye,
His laugh is soft and mellow;
And, when his pack is open,
I wonder what there'll be—
That will be just the very thing
To hang upon our tree.

She's violent. And my brother-in-law,
he's telegraphed to say that unless I come
right away he and the children's lives
won't be safe. I could always manage
Mirandy in one of her crazy turns. I'm
dreadful sorry, but it can't be helped.
You'll hev to shut up the factory until
Henry gets back. It's a pity, too, with
business jest lookin' up, and all them
New York orders comin' in. If Henry'd
the sense to marry a more capable
woman—'

'Isn't that the clock striking five?'

said Mrs. Harry, quietly. 'If you ex-
pect to take the return train to Smoky
Town, you will have no time to spare.'

Miss Joyce chuckled as her sleigh bells
jingled down the road.

'I give her a piece of my mind for
once in a way,' thought she. 'What
possessed Henry Haddon to marry a wax
doll like that, I don't know! I could
have managed to hire some one to take
care of Mirandy, I guess, but I'd just
like to show Henry what a mistake he
made.'

Mrs. Harry herself closed the door
after the loud voice and squeaking boots
of Juliana with a sensation of relief.

She went back to the fire and a
candle, and with one trim little foot poised
on the fender, re-read her husband's letter.

'Now is my opportunity,' she said to
herself. 'It is a great undertaking; but
surely I can do what Juliana Joyce could.
I'll stop embroidering those slippers for
Harry's Christmas and make him a pre-
sent of something far better—the con-
sciousness that his life-selection has not
been a mistake!'

A week afterward, Juliana Joyce
shrilly hailed the tinware peddler who
traveled from town to town along that

in' sight o' grit.'

Old Peppercorn was right. Mrs.
Harry Haddon has found her level at
last. Late and early she was at her
post.

'It would be a sorry home-coming
for Harry,' she thought, 'to find the
factory shut up and his bread-winner
gone. I don't pretend to be a business
man, but I believe that I have some
common sense, and I can surely accomplish
what any other woman was expected to
do.'

Nevertheless a strange sensation of
loneliness came over her on Christmas
Eve, when she sat alone by the blazing
logs on the hearth of the old farmhouse.

'Ain't we to have no Christmas, Mrs.
Harry?' Hannah, the hired girl, had
asked, with an aggrieved countenance,
and the young wife had answered, cheer-
fully:

'Of course, Hannah. But the turkey
must be the very smallest in the yard,
and one little mince-pie will do for you
and me. I'll just put up a few sprigs of
the mistletoe that Johnny Barton brought
me from Callikoon Swamp, and we won't
let the blessed day pass by without some
good cheer, lonely though we are.'

'Poor dear!' thought Hannah, wist-
fully regarding her young mistress' pale
face. 'It's pretty hard on her to be
alone this Christmas Day of all others!'

She was boiling down a kettle of cider-
apple sauce in the kitchen, when a chime
of sleigh-bells sounded as far as the
front door and then stopped.

'You go to the door, please, Mrs.
Harry,' she called out. 'I've got my
apple-sauce a-b'illin' away like all creation,
and it'll be sart'n sure to scorch if I
leave it a second now. I guess likely it's

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS

Happenings The World Over.

CLEANINGS OF INTEREST TERSE-
LY TOLD, BOTH DOMESTIC
AND FOREIGN.

Washington News.

The senate confirmed the following nomi-
nations: P. B. Cheney of New Hampshire,
envoy extraordinary and minister plenipoten-
tiary to Switzerland; G. M. Lambertson,
of Nebraska assistant secretary of the treasury;
I. A. Benton, marshal of the Territory
of Utah; P. J. Fiance, receiver of public
moneys at Natchitoches, La.; Thomas Frazer,
register of the land office at Sacramento,
Cal.; M. R. Rose of Ohio, assistant commis-
sioner of the general land office; judges of
probate in Utah, Charles Foote, Juab county;
W. W. Wallace, Sevier county; C. A.
Herman, Toole county.

Representative Antony, of Texas, intro-
duced a bill repealing the act of June 27,
1890, granting pensions to soldiers and sail-
ors and to widows, minor children and de-
pendent parents of soldiers and sailors. The
bill also provides that all pensions granted
under the act shall be discontinued.

Bids were opened at the navy department
for the construction of the sea going ships
Iowa and Brooklyn. The Clamps were the
lowest bidders on both vessels, which will
cost about \$3,000,000 each.

The House committee on Ways and
Means passed a resolution, appointing a
sub-committee of five, to conduct the in-
vestigation into the financial condition of
the Treasury.

Indian Commissioner Morgan has written
a letter to the interior department stating
that a great many of the Indian children
will not go to the government schools, and
suggesting that force be used to compel
their attendance.

Among the bills introduced in the House
was one by Mr. Helms, of Pennsylvania,
calling on the public printer for a de-
tailed statement of the work of his depart-
ment, the names of all hands employed in
the printing office, the salary they receive
and from what State appointed.

Crime and Penalties.

A double murder occurred at Yellow
Springs, O. George Koogler, white, and
Lou Kris, colored, were the victims. They
were found with their heads crushed at the
home of the woman, who was a bad char-
acter. Koogler was a well-to-do farmer with
grown children. The motive of the crime
is yet unknown, though supposed to be
from jealousy.

In the United States District Court at
Philadelphia the cases of four mail wagon
drivers convicted of stealing packages they
were conveying from the postoffice to mail
trains have been disposed of as follows:
Charles Sheek, \$30 fine and two years and
six months; John Hooper \$200 fine and two
years; Richard Dixon \$200 fine and two
years; and James Hirst, who turned State's
evidence, \$100 fine and nine months.

Arson and forgery trials at Wayneboro,
Ga., ended in a bloody fight in open court.
Charles N. McMorrill, W. L. McMorrill and
W. P. Jones were shot dead.

At South Creek, N. C., Robert Rogers, a
white man, killed William Hammond, col-
ored, and Tom Moore, colored, killed Rogers
directly afterwards.

Two masked outlaws robbed the railroad
depot at Whitewater, Kan., of \$100 and some
express packages. The agent was held up.

General Labor and Industrial.

A 10 per cent reduction has been ordered
by the Phoenix Iron Company, Phoenix,
Pa., in all the mills and departments
of the plant except the puddling mill where
wages have been reduced from \$3 25 to \$3
per ton. Common laborers will hereafter
receive 95 cents instead of \$1 02 per day.
The reason given is depression in business.

In accordance with the order issued by
the Executive Committee of the United
Green Glass Blowers' Association, the glass
blowers in the Cumberland works, Bright-
on, N. J., went on strike. The strike is a
fight against the non-union glass manufac-
turers of South Jersey.

At a meeting of the national association
of marble cutters and setters, St. Louis, Mo.,
a committee was ordered to draw up a set
of resolutions asking congress to increase the
tariff on polished marble.

Financial and Commercial.

The National Fire Insurance Company,
established in 1838, one of the oldest insur-
ance corporations in New York, has decided
to liquidate its affairs. Its outstanding risks
were reinsured in the Commercial Union
Assurance Company of London. The National
had agents in the principal cities
throughout the United States, except Phila-
delphia and Southern points.

The Newton National bank, Newton, Kan.,
closed its doors posting upon them a
notice, 'Bank closed—in the hands of the
government.' The funds gave out and the
officers voluntarily closed the bank. The
bank was closed November 21, 1890, in its
failure involving banks at Guthrie, White
Water and other places. In July, 1891, it
was reopened under an agreement with the
old depositors.

Legislative.

A bill was introduced in the South Caro-
lina house of representatives making it
a misdemeanor for any person to prevent
an employe from joining a labor organiza-
tion or political club, or to threaten an em-
ploye with discharge for connection therewith. It is understood that this is the out-
growth of the recent State campaign, the
administration alleging that corporations
discharged men because they were Tillman-
ites.

Disasters, Accidents and Futilities.

Mrs. Jennie Euchins and her two
daughters, at St. Paul, were burned to death
in their boarding house.

Katherine Donahue was killed and Della
Barry seriously injured at Boston, Mass., by
being run over by a freight train.

Turf News.

At the sale of trotters at Chicago good
prices were secured. M. J. Fleischman, of

New York, put up the biggest money, pay-
ing \$5,425 for Matt E. H.

Alexander Brown's cotton warehouse was
burned at Baltimore, Md. Loss, \$750,000, in-
sured. Spontaneous combustion is the sup-
posed cause of the fire.

BEYOND OUR BORDERS.

The bill providing for the repression of
immorality in Berlin, one of the pet mea-
sures of the Emperor, is now before the
Reichstag, and His Majesty is hopeful that
it will become a law.

Mr. Peters of London, England, secretary
of the North Atlantic Steamship association
states that the decision not to carry steerage
passengers on the vessels belonging to the
association after January, 1893, applies to
American citizens and residents of the United
States, as well as to persons who have
never been in America.

Four new cases of cholera have been re-
ported in Hamburg since the 12th inst.

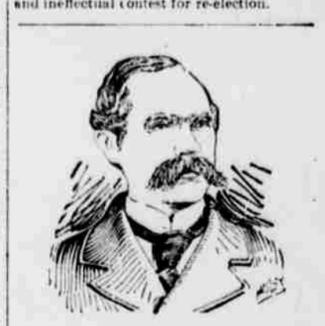
Another mill for grinding Indian corn
from America has been started in Hamburg,
the third of its kind in Europe.

The Reichstag at Berlin, adopted a motion
declaring that Rector Althardt, sentenced
to five months imprisonment for libel, com-
mitted in his notorious pamphlet entitled
'Jewish Guns,' was entitled to immunity
from arrest.

SENATOR GIBSON DEAD.

He Passed Away at Hot Springs After a
Distinguished Career as a Civilian,
Soldier and Politician.

Randall Lee Gibson, United States Sen-
ator from Louisiana, died at Hot Springs,
Ark. He had been ill for some months, hav-
ing broken down from the effects of a long
and ineffectual contest for re-election.



SENATOR RANDALL LEE GIBSON.

General Gibson was a citizen of New
Orleans. He was born September 10, 1832, at
Spring Hill, Ky. He received his education
in Lexington, Ky., in Terre Bonne, Paris,
La., at Yale College, and in the law depart-
ment of the Tulane University of Louisiana.
He was aide to the Governor of Louisiana
at the commencement of the Civil War and
commanded a company, regiment, brigade
and division in the Confederate army. At
the time of his death he was one of the
administrators of the Howard Memorial Li-
brary, New Orleans; President of the Board
of Administrators of the Tulane University;
a trustee of the Peabody Education Fund
and a regent of the Smithsonian Institution.
Senator Gibson was both a planter and a
lawyer. He was elected to the Forty-third
Congress from the Second Louisiana dis-
trict, but was denied admission. He served
in the four succeeding Congresses as a
Representative, and in 1883 was sent by the
Louisiana Democrats to the United States
Senate, having no opposition. His second
term would have expired in 1895, and it was
in seeking a re-election by the present Leg-
islature that he lost his strength.

HOME TRADE IS HEALTHY.

The Foreign and Domestic Business of
the Country Larger This Year
Than Ever Before.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s 'Weekly Review of
Trade' says:

The shipment of more than \$3,000,000
gold to Europe early this week has caused
some natural apprehension in speculative
markets. It is true that the gold is de-
manded by Austria under such circum-
stances that an exceptional premium is
paid for it, but neither Austria nor any
other country could draw gold from the
United States at present, unless there were
heavy sales of American securities by for-
eigners.

The exports of bread-stuffs, cotton, pro-
visions, cattle and petroleum in November
amounted to \$72,000,000, indicating aggre-
gate exports of about \$85,000,000 per month,
and an excess of merchandise exports over
imports not less than \$20,000,000. At the
same time silver has been going abroad in
large amounts. It is clear that unless se-
curities had been moved this way an un-
usual amount gold could not be taken
abroad in the settlement of international
exchanges.

But the conditions of domestic trade are
decidedly healthy, and the approaching
close of the year will find a larger volume
of business, both foreign and domestic,
than has ever been known before.

It is noted that the freight movement,
both eastward and westward, is unusually
heavy, and there are again signs of a car
famine in the West.

The movement of gold does not, for the
present, cause especial stringency in the
money market here, because currency is
coming this way from the interior. Never-
theless it is felt that any considerable outgo
at this season must affect prices of products,
and wheat is nearly a cent lower than a
week ago, with but moderate sales, though
corn is about a cent higher and oats sub-
stantially unchanged. In the cotton market
extraordinary speculation continues, with
sales of more than 1,000,000 bales for the
week and a slight advance in prices.

The business failures during the seven
days number for the United States 270, for
Canada 25, total 295, as compared with 297
last week; 369 the week previous to the last,
and 335 for the corresponding week of last
year.

DISASTERS IN JAPAN.

A Big Fire in Tokio, Many Miners Killed
and Smallpox Raging.

The steamer Peru arrived at San Fran-
cisco, bringing news that the fire in Tokio,
November 11, destroyed nearly 700 houses.
Seventeen firemen were injured while fight-
ing the conflagration.

On November 7 a portion of a lime-stone
mine in Nagayamura, Japan, collapsed,
killing 35 miners.

Smallpox is raging furiously in Sapporo,
Japan.
Three escaped Japanese convicts recently
found shelter in the house of a family.
They were kindly treated and supplied with
food for three days. On the fourth day,
during the absence of the son and daughter
they murdered the father, pillaged the
house and fled. The son on returning over-
took the men, shot and killed two and cap-
tured the third.